

Message Text

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73

ACTION SS-30

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R 301922Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5987

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 14060

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EEC, JA, DA, PFOR

SUBJECT: JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN PRINCIPLES

DECLARATION

REF: A) STATE 230822, B) STATE 226855

1. WE SAW BUTLER (HEAD, EUROPEAN INTEGRATION DEPT.,
EXTERNAL, FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE) NOVEMBER 30
TO CONVEY U.S. REGRET THAT EC HAD NOT CONSULTED WITH
U.S. BEFORE INVITING JAPANESE TO PARTICIPATE IN
BILATERAL DEFINITION OF EC-JAPANESE RELATIONS.

2. WE WENT OVER SUBSTANCE OF PARAS 2,3 AND 6 (REFTEL A)
IN DETAIL. IN REPLY BUTLER COMMENTED THAT IT HAD
BEEN HMG UNDERSTANDING AT MEETING NOVEMBER 12 THAT
TEXT OF BRIEFING PAPER (STATE 226855) SHOULD BE
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DELIVERED TO U.S. AND JAPANESE GOVERNMENTS SIMULTAN-

EOUSLY, RATHER THAN TO JAPANESE FIRST. HE AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS COULD HARDLY BE INTERPRETED AS PROVIDING TIME FOR CONSULTATION. HE SAID HE HAD HEARD OF U.S. PROTEST RE LACK OF CONSULTATION, BUT EXPRESSED SOME SURPRISE THAT U.S. APPARENTLY UNAWARE OF EC VIEWS ON DIFFICULTIES OF BROADENING SCOPE OF DECLARATIONS. EC HAD BELIEVED THAT TWO DECLARATIONS ON WHICH WORK IS FAIRLY WELL ADVANCED (IN NATO AND EC CONTEXTS) WERE ESSENTIALLY "TRANS ATLANTIC" IN NATURE. EFFORTS TO WIDEN THE COVERAGE OF THE US/EC EXERCISE WOULD LEAD TO A WATERING DOWN OF SOME ALREADY FAIRLY COMMONPLACE LANGUAGE, AND WOULD PRODUCE LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR THAT COULD NOT FULFILL THE PURPOSE BOTH THE U.S. AND THE EC HAD IN MIND. THE EC CONCEIVED OF THE US/JAPANESE/EC TRIANGLE AS ONE WHICH MADE TWO, OR EVEN THREE, DISTINCT BILATERAL DEFINITIONS OF RELATIONS POSSIBLE, AND HE SPECULATED THAT THE U.S. AND JAPAN MIGHT EVENTUALLY WISH TO WORK OUT A STATEMENT THAT WOULD COMPLETE THE TRIANGLE. AN EC/JAPANESE DECLARATION MIGHT CONTAIN ELEMENTS THAT WERE NOT POSSIBLE IN A EC/US STATEMENT, ALTHOUGH WHEN PRESSED TO SUGGEST WHAT THESE NEW ELEMENTS MIGHT BE, HE WAS UNABLE TO SUGGEST ANY EXCEPT TO SAY THAT THE FACT OF AN EC/JAPANESE DECLARATION WOULD IN ITSELF BE A WORTHWHILE INNOVATION. WE REITERATED THE POINTS MADE IN PARA 6 REFTTEL A. HE TOOK NOTE OF OUR VIEWS AND AGREED TO REPORT THEM.

3. WE ASKED HOW THE CONCEPT OF A US/EC JAPANESE TRIANGLE WAS AFFECTED BY CANADIAN INTEREST IN A DEFINITION OF CANADIAN/EC RELATIONS. BUTLER AGREED THAT THE CONCEPT WOULD BECOME SOMEWHAT UNTIDY, AND NOTED THAT CANADIAN INTEREST IN BEING INCLUDED IN THE DECLARATION EXERCISE WAS APPARENTLY STRONGER AND LONGER LASTING THAN THE JAPANESE. ASKED IF ANY REACTION TO THE EC APPRAOCH TO JAPAN HAD BEEN NOTED, BUTLER SAID IT HAD NOT, AND THAT HE THOUGHT THE JAPANESE WOULD WAIT TO SEE HOW THE US/EC DRAFT PROCEEDED BEFORE MAKING A REPLY.

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